

any additional fees which may be required to Acct. No. 11-0224.

Applicant further respectfully requests that this response be accepted as a bona fide effort to meet any potential response requirements outstanding and due in the above captioned matter.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, after line 2, please insert the following header:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:

1. Field of the Invention/-

Page 2, the section beginning with the last paragraph on page 2 through the end of page 3 to be replaced by the following paragraphs:

2. Brief Description of the Background of the Invention

D2 Including Prior Art

Page 3, first paragraph, please amend as follows:

D3 the denture. The active connection elements are associated with the disadvantage that the frictional force based on the wear for the spring force based on the spring fatigue can decrease in the course of [line] time such that the attachment of the denture is not any longer assured. In addition, periodontal weak residual teeth or implants can be damaged in case the pull-out force of the denture is not precisely defined. Passive connection elements avoid the disadvantages. Here the support of the denture is accomplished by a pure shape matching with the locking bar device.--

Page 3, second paragraph, please amend as follows:

According to the state-of-the-art today in most cases still the conventional dental technological locking bars - hasp, sliding bolt and plug bar or, respectively, dead bolt are employed.

D4 The opening of the locking bars is performed in most cases by having the patient [gripped] grip into a groove with a fingernail.

The manual skill required for this however is not present with each patient. As special shape of a dead bolt represents a conventional construction, wherein the opening of the bolt is performed with a key, wherein the key is entered into a bore hole provided for this purpose.

Page 6, after line 2, please insert the heading:

D5 --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

D5

1. Purposes of the Invention--

Page 6, in front of the last paragraph, please insert the heading:

D6

--2. Brief Description of the Invention--

Page 8, after the second paragraph, please insert:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING--

D7

Page 12, after the first paragraph, please insert:

D8

--DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION AND PREFERRED EMBODIMENT--

Page 14, first paragraph, please amend as follows:

D⁹
--of the operation of the spring force by having the locking bar R pushing [against the locking device A;] with a stop face 6 (figure 1 and 2) against the locking device A, wherein the locking device A in turn is guided in this direction over the extension 4 in the recess 5 of the casing G.--

Page 26, first paragraph, please amend as follows:

D/D
--insufficient for releasing this motion, then the same is released by a pushing of the bolt B with a limit stop face 37 at a belonging limit stop 38 of the casing G upon further pressing of the pushbutton D. The locking of the locking bar R is effected by having the locking device A with a limit stop face 39 pushed against a limit stop face [14] 40 of the casing G. The connecting element is easily held in the slightly lifted position by the spring force, which spring force operates onto the inclined face 35 of the